

Abstract

When planning and setting up wind power installations the visual detractions to be expected on the part of the wind power installation on the environment play an increasingly important part in approval and acceptance. If for example a wind power installation is placed in the proximity of a residence, it is possible, when the sun is in unfavourable positions, that the wind power installation or the rotor thereof is between the sun and the residence. If the sunshine is not affected by cloud, the rotating rotor constantly throws a (strobing) shadow on to the property. The shadow casting caused by the wind power installation on the adjoining properties is often perceived by the residents as being very troublesome. Even if the wind power installation satisfies the legal approval requirements there is however not always any guarantee that the undesired shadow casting effect is prevented.

The object of the present invention is to provide a wind power installation by means of which shadow casting regulation is improved.

That is achieved by a method of operating a wind power installation wherein a first light intensity is detected in a region of direct light irradiation and a second light intensity is detected in a shadowed region, and wherein the wind power installation is shut down if the difference between the first light intensity and the second light intensity is greater than a predetermined value.

(Figure 1)